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us as void of them as if they had never existed.

To constitute a good memory, there are three qualities : upon a due proportion of each, all the basis of memory rests, viz. susceptibility, retentiveness, and readiness.

Susceptibility is the capacity of remembering a great many subjects with facility and quickness, and from the easy attainment of any object, the possessors of it desire, is often employed in useless recollections ; a storehouse for trifles, and not to improving subjects as the gift of nature.

Retentiveness is the firmness with which the ideas communicated are retained, and from the difficulty such people have in treasuring up their knowledge, they commonly impress the choicest things on this principle, and are thus compensated for their labour.

Readiness is the facility with which we recollect things, and is highly useful to those who act in public life : It is, as well as susceptibility and retentiveness, capable of great improvement by habit, and continued and persevering efforts.

I have now given nearly as much information as can be communicated on the subject. I might indeed, enter into a large field of speculation, about the improvement of the memory, the variety of it in different individuals, or of *artificial memory*, a professor of which extraordinary art, read a course of lectures in Glasgow and Edinburgh, this year, for the small fee of five guineas for fifteen lectures !

QUINTUS QUIZ.

Doran's Rock.

To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

GENTLEMEN,

I PERCEIVE, with regret, by your last month's Magazine, that you

have come to the resolution of relinquishing your publication at the end of the year. I therefore take the liberty, before the close of the work, of correcting a small mistake, which your ingenious correspondent S.M.S. has fallen into, respecting the derivation of *Ballymena*, in his *Sketch of a Ramble*, in 1810, which was published in your Magazine, for May, 1812. The author there states, that the town takes its name from *Bailliemainath*, which signifies the town upon the ford of the river Main. Now this I apprehend to be erroneous, as Ballymena is not within a mile and a half of the river Main ; and therefore could not, with any propriety, be named from that river, it being situated on the *Braid Water*, which falls into the Main, a considerable distance below the town. The more probable derivation is, that *Ballymenagh*, as it was originally pelt, signifies the *Middle Town* ; from *Bally*, a town ; and *Menagh*, *Middle* ; and this is strongly corroborated by the well known fact of the market-house being supposed to be situated near the centre of the county. The derivation of *Craigbilly* is probably also from *Craig* and *Bally*, meaning the town on the *Craig*. From what I have just stated, I hope your correspondent will not suppose that I have any intention of depreciating his labours ; on the contrary, I think he deserves the thanks of every one interested in the topography of our island.

I remain, &c.

G.

November 9th, 1812.

To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

GENTLEMEN.

I HAVE read with great pleasure, in your last month's Magazine, an ingenious communication, from Dr. Ogilby, of Dublin, containing